



# California Department of Veterans Affairs

---

## NEWS FOR VETERANS

Contact: Robert Glazier  
Jerry Jones  
Jaime Arteaga  
Legislation and Public Affairs  
916-653-2192  
Fax 916-653-2611  
January 10, 2005

### NEWS FROM THE USDVA

The Chief Business Office (CBO) is pleased to announce that a new re-engineered health eligibility Internet website has been launched today. This site, which is located at [www.va.gov/healtheligibility](http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility), will be VA's authoritative source on the Internet for information on veterans' health benefits eligibility. Designed with the veteran in mind, the site provides easy access to VA's comprehensive health benefits, eligibility and enrollment information.

Beginning today, users attempting to access the current site, [www.va.gov/elig](http://www.va.gov/elig), will be provided the new URL and automatically redirected to the new address. However, we encourage the national Veteran Service Organizations to update their websites to link as well as communicate this news to your national representatives.

We appreciate your assistance with sharing the news about this new site with internal and external stakeholders. Questions or concerns may be directed to Lynne Harbin at 404-235-1318, [lynne.harbin@med.va.gov](mailto:lynne.harbin@med.va.gov) or Floretta Hardmon, [floretta.hardmon@med.va.gov](mailto:floretta.hardmon@med.va.gov) at 404-235-1306.

---

### NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) is offering two teleconferences for nonprofit homeless veteran service providers in January. The conference calls are made possible through a grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### HOMELESS VETERANS' ACCESS TO MAINSTREAM ASSISTANCE

NCHV and Volunteers of America are hosting the second call in a series of teleconferences that will focus on homeless veterans' access to mainstream assistance programs. This call will focus specifically on Social Security and Disability Income. Information will be presented on who is qualified for VA disability benefits, either service-connected or non service-connected, and understanding the differences between the Social Security Administration's two disability programs.

**When:** January 27, 2005; 2:00 p.m. (EST), 11:00 a.m. (PST)

**What:** 90-minute conference call to provide overview of Social Security and Disability Income programs and how to help homeless veterans access them.

**Who:** Yvonne Perret, Executive Director of the Advocacy Training Center, Cumberland, MD.

Ms. Perret is a psychiatric social worker who currently is the executive director of the Advocacy and Training Center in Cumberland, MD, an organization which focuses on advocacy and training in the area of public benefits, mental health services, and co-occurring disorders (mental illness and substance abuse).

**To Register:** Send an email to [nchv5@nchv.org](mailto:nchv5@nchv.org) with your name, organization name, address, phone number and email address, and type January 27 in the subject line. You will receive the call-in number and access code to confirm your participation four working days before the conference call.

**NOTE:** If you are unable to participate in this teleconference call from home or your place of employment, CDVA Headquarters in Sacramento will make a conference room with a speaker telephone available on the day of the call. Veterans wishing to take advantage of this opportunity should contact Jaime Arteaga, Public Information Officer, at 916-653-2192 by Tuesday, January 25, 2005

---

Individuals or organizations wishing to subscribe or unsubscribe to this service may contact us via email at [newsforveterans@cdva.ca.gov](mailto:newsforveterans@cdva.ca.gov) or by telephone at 1-800-952-5626 or 916-653-2192. For more news and information of interest to veterans, visit our website at <http://www.cdva.ca.gov/>.